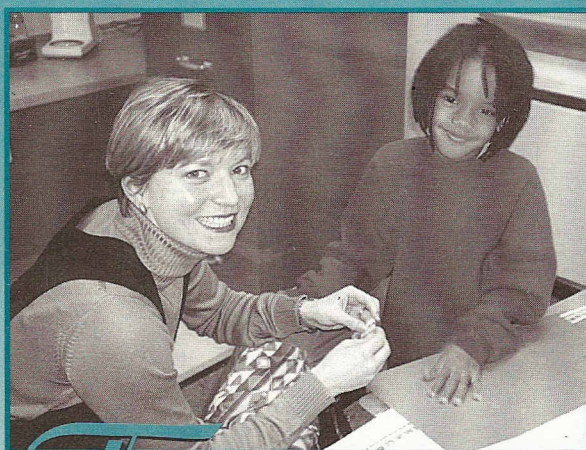


JUNIOR LEAGUE



OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, INC.
ESTABLISHED 1932



The Junior League of Charlottesville (JLC) is a non-profit organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism and to improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. The JLC reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism.





WCHV/WWV
1140 Rose Hill Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22903-3826
(804) 977-5566
Fax (804) 977-0747



October 28, 1996

Barbara Kessler
Junior League of Charlottesville
ATTN: Community Grant
PO Box 135
Charlottesville, VA 22902

usa
FBI
-B

Dear Barbara,

Thank you for your decision to support 3WV/WCHV's MADD campaign! Your purchase of a \$199 package will make a big difference.

We're excited about the opportunity to work with you on this campaign. Companies like yours can take a great deal of pride in this commitment you've made to our community.

We think that this partnership between 3WV/WCHV and your firm is a creative and effective way to solve some of the challenges here in Central Virginia. Plus, here's a solution that doesn't need Washington's help.

Take pride in your sponsorship of this work!

We're confident that you'll discover, as so many of our other campaign sponsors have already, that this is an excellent way to get your firm's name out in the community... And you're being a good citizen in the process.

Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Ricky Barnes
Community Service Coordinator

WEDNESDAY

October 2, 1996

Daily Progress

Published by Virginia Newspapers, Inc. ✓

A Media General Company

Goode, Landrith spar in 5th District debate

From staff and wire reports

HAMPDEN-SYDNEY — Republican George Landrith repeated to a debate audience Tuesday his promise that he would be on the Ways and Means Committee and have immediate influence if elected to Virginia's only open congressional seat.

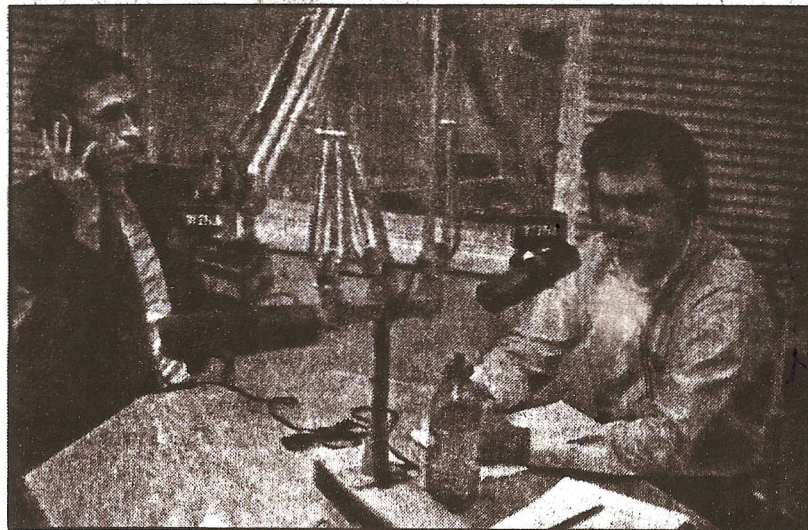
"From Day One, I'll be in a position to get things done," Landrith, an Albemarle County attorney and

former School Board member, said at Hampden-Sydney College.

But state Sen. Virgil Goode, Landrith's Democratic opponent in the 5th District race, said he believed in making campaign promises he could keep — and joining the powerful budget-writing committee was not among them.

"Be wary of guarantees," Goode told the crowd of 400 people.

See **DEBATE** on A8



The Daily Progress/Matt Gentry

State Sen. Virgil Goode (left) and George Landrith, an Albemarle attorney, sit in WINA's studio during the station's "Talkback" show.

Debate

Continued from A1

Goode said his experience in the General Assembly has demonstrated that committee assignments are subject to much give and take from both parties at the beginning of sessions.

"You can't always guarantee a position. Even the speaker can't," Goode said.

After the debate, Landrith pulled out a letter from House Speaker Newt Gingrich to back him up.

"You can rest assured we will do everything possible to make you Virginia's member on the Ways and Means Committee," Gingrich wrote.

Landrith said he would be in a more influential position as a member of the Republican majority in Congress than Goode.

If Goode won and the Democrats managed to regain the majority, "You will get the most left-wing leadership we have ever had," Landrith said.

Goode said Landrith might feel obliged to repay Gingrich for the help. "It would be a factor in how you vote," Goode said. "I won't be beholden to any speaker or any president."

In a debate that lasted well over an hour, the candidates clashed on only one other issue. Landrith said he supported government backing for private grade schools with vouchers or tax credits; Goode opposed the idea.

The two candidates in Virginia's only open-seat election for Congress this year also plan to address a candidate forum Monday night at the University of Virginia law school, where each earned a law degree. The forum, sponsored by the Junior League and the League of Women Voters,

is set for 7 to 8 p.m. in the law school's Caplin Auditorium.

Landrith and Goode also released their federal campaign disclosure forms this week.

Landrith said before the debate that he hasn't had time to practice both law and politics and would be broke by the November election.

Landrith, 35, said he was so committed to taking conservative values to Congress that he reported earning virtually no income over the past 16 months. The \$50,000 that was in the family's savings account two years ago is almost wiped out and Landrith said they'll be "down to zero" next month.

"It is risky, and it makes both me and my wife nervous, but it's something we're very committed to," Landrith told the Roanoke Times. "It's fairly typical that people who are committed devote body, soul and bank account. I don't have a lot to put into it, because I'm not rich."

On Charlottesville radio station WINA's "Talkback" call-in show earlier Tuesday, Landrith said the newspaper inaccurately stated that he had used almost a third of the nearly \$10,000 he had raised for a political action committee last year to pay for health insurance for himself, his wife and their five children.

Landrith had formed the Virginians for a Conservative Majority PAC to help conservative Republican candidates for the General Assembly, and the newspaper said about 30 percent of its money "was spent on health insurance for Landrith and his family, and the rest was spent for overhead costs, such as renting an office, staff salary and other bills."

"A third of it may have been spent on health insurance but there was an employee" of the PAC whose health insurance also was

covered, Landrith said.

Landrith said the PAC owed him about \$5,000 for reimbursements for items such as "phone bills and postage and those sorts of things that I didn't take."

Last year, when he wasn't a candidate, Landrith said his law practice didn't make a profit, and the family lived off savings. His financial disclosure reports show his only earned income in 1995 was \$3,028 he made as an appointed member of the Albemarle County School Board.

He also reported between \$1,404 and \$4,700 in unearned income from stocks and other assets.

This year, with his School Board appointment expired, he reported no earned income from January to May.

Landrith said his time and money spent working for Virginians for a Conservative Majority were worth far more than the amount of PAC money he used for health insurance.

Bruce Meadows, the secretary for the state Board of Elections, said he's never heard of a PAC paying for the health insurance of a candidate and his family, but it's not against state law.

"It's a large, large stretch, but it's not illegal," Meadows said. "I've seen expenditures for things like a candidate's wardrobe and things of that nature, but getting as personal as your health care, I haven't seen it."

Goode, 49, a state senator from Franklin County for the past 23 years, said he had no comment on the Landrith PAC expenditures.

In 1995, Goode earned \$24,000 from his state Senate job and \$15,500 from his law practice in Rocky Mount, according to federal campaign disclosure forms. His unearned income was listed as between \$10,310 and \$33,500.

WEDNESDAY April 30, 1997

Hands up for hands-on learning



The Daily Progress
Following the lead of guide Kristen Balint, Crozet Elementary School students Kirstie Murray (left) and Heather Conley, 5, flex their muscles Tuesday morning during a tour of the Children's Health Museum at the UVA Medical Center. The museum, which opened in 1980 and welcomed its 100,000th visitor Tuesday, specializes in hands-on, health-related exhibits for children.



grapevine

February 18, 1997

Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc.
P.O. Box 122
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Attn: Barbara Kessler

Dear Ms. Kessler:

We would like to thank the members of the Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc. for their recent very generous donation in the amount of \$500.00 to the Children's Medical Center.

As per your request, the money will be used towards funding of the CMC Healing Garden.

It is donations such as yours that have made this very special project such a huge success. We urge all members of the Junior League to come and tour the garden once it is completed later this year.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Donna D. Hudson
Hospital Assistant Administrator
Children's Medical Center

DDH/cf



grapevine

CHIP of Virginia

Comprehensive

March 12, 1997

Health

Dear Friend of CHIP:

Investment

We are very pleased to tell you that the Virginia General Assembly has approved an additional \$1,000,000 for CHIP of Virginia for the 1997-98 budget. This amount is in addition to the \$700,612 allocated for the second year of the 1996-98 biennium budget.

Project

Our success is due greatly to the efforts made by you and other friends of CHIP. We were told repeatedly by legislators that receiving letters and calls on behalf of CHIP increased their awareness and appreciation of the program. CHIP of Virginia thanks you. We also ask that you thank your legislative contacts for their help and support.

145 W. Campbell Ave.

We ask that you continue to support CHIP with your time, your resources, and your commitment. We are working diligently to secure additional funds to continue to provide the high quality services to children and families that are the hallmark of the CHIP program.

Sincerely,

Suite 403

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Angie S. Francis'.

Angie S. Francis
Executive Director

Roanoke, VA 24011

Phone: 540-345-9370

Fax: 540-342-4161



BOOK BASKETS

906 Fendall Terrace Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

March 30, 1997

Mrs. Barbara Kessler, Pres.
Jr. League of Charlottesville
3658 Country Road
Charlottesville, Va. 22903

Dear Mrs. Kessler:

Last year the Jr. League generously gave a \$500 grant to Book Baskets to purchase baskets to aid in their collecting of lightly used books for pre-schoolers and to create a brochure to help mothers to read to their children.

I am pleased to enclose the just completed brochure "Reading with Pre-School Children", with the credit to the Junior League noted on the final sheet. We are happy with the results and have already distributed copies to Head Start, the Public Health Service, Project Link, the Fluvana Baptist Day Care Center, and we shall continue giving them out to organizations such as Jefferson Day Care who had received our books before the brochure was completed.

The best news is that Nancy Newman, the Instructional Coordinator at the Venable School has asked that a brochure (with a slightly altered title) be included in the packet that goes out to every kindergarten child next year. Isn't that nice?

So far we have collected from approximately 15 schools and Martha Jefferson Hospital over 3,000 books, and they have all been distributed. We hope to be able to buy some new books to supplement the used books and to meet our growing need.

Please thank Kelly Haslup and all of the Junior League for making the funds available to us. We are indeed grateful!

Sincerely yours,

Mildred Abraham
Mildred Abraham
Chair

Mildred Abraham - Chair Doris Frantz Betty Cauthen - Treasurer
Bobbie Bruner Donna Morris Anne Porter Ann Southwell Elizabeth P. Wilkerson

THE MUSIC RESOURCE CENTER

a.k.a. "The Studios"

A project of MUSYC-Charlottesville:

Musicians United to Serve the Youth of the Community--Charlottesville

Mailing Address: P.O. Box E / Street Address: 122 11th St. S.W., 2nd Floor
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-0519 (804) 979-5008

April 23, 1997

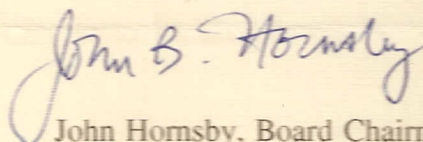
Junior League of Charlottesville
c/o Fran Carden
Community Grants Chair
1602 Grove Road
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Dear Junior League Members,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of \$1,000 in the form of two Community Grants of \$500 each to the Music Resource Center. It means a great deal to us to receive your financial support and the vote of approval that it represents. We are aware that you all have observed the workings of many community charities and social service programs, so it is gratifying to know that we were selected by such an informed and involved group as yours.

We want you to know that we see your donation as creating in us an obligation not only to use the funds for the uses listed in our application (for the purchase of drum equipment, microphones and to fund our first quarterly talent show), but to ensure that the equipment and the events are supervised according to the high standards that we are trying to impart to these teens. We invite each of you to drop by the Center to see your funds in use, and to come to any of the talent shows. We will advertise shows in the newspaper and we will try to remember to inform Fran Carden of any events you all may be interested in, so that she can pass along the information to you. Thank you again for your generous support.

Yours truly,



John Hornsby, Board Chairman
Musicians United to Serve the Youth
of the Community--Charlottesville

Families Learning Together
Johnson Elementary School
1645 Cherry Avenue
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
May 12, 1997

Members of the Junior League of Charlottesville, Virginia
317 Main Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Dear Junior League Members,

We really appreciate the support you gave us to help keep our program going so we may be successful in the future.

It felt great to receive this Focus Award and to know that your organization really cares about families.

Our goal is to further our education so that we may improve our qualities of life for ourselves and our children. Knowledge is power.

Thank you.

Shirley Early

Mrs. Spady - ve

Sincerely,

Dina Radland

*Kate Rauscher
Janet O'Connor*

Families Learning Together Parents and Staff

Deann Brown

Lynne Carlson

Janet Barksdale

Tracy Chamber

Erlynn Rivera

Bernice Doffney

Anna Jaden

The JLC & Region Ten Partnership Begins...



*Barbara Kessler, JLC Past President
gives the envelope to
Jim Peterson of Region Ten*



*Nurturing Program Coordinator,
Betty Kerr talks with Buzz Cox of
the Charlottesville
Dept of Social Services*



UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA



HEALTH
SCIENCES
CENTER

DEPARTMENT OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

May 13, 1997

Barbara Kessler, President
Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc.
P.O. Box 135
Charlottesville, Va. 22902

Dear Ms. Kessler:

Thanks to the Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc., the Children's Health Museum in the Primary Care Center of the University of Virginia Medical Center, which opened its doors in 1980 as a Junior League project, has enriched the lives of thousands of volunteers, dozens of University of Virginia Student Interns as well as Medical and Nursing students, countless families, and over 100,000 children.

The children, who visit us, either on a field trip from school or as a walk-in from our lobby or as an inpatient, learn about their bodies, healthy choices, and health care in a fun safe and encouraging atmosphere. Our volunteers build the children's self esteem by using positive methods to teach them how to take good care of themselves. These volunteers, who include adults from the community (many of whom have been Junior League Members), Madison House Volunteers (University of Virginia Students) and Junior Volunteers (High School Students) serve as wonderful role models for our many young visitors. In addition, our younger volunteers learn effective parenting skills that will serve them well in the future. Both the children and the volunteers benefit from their experience at the Children's Health Museum.

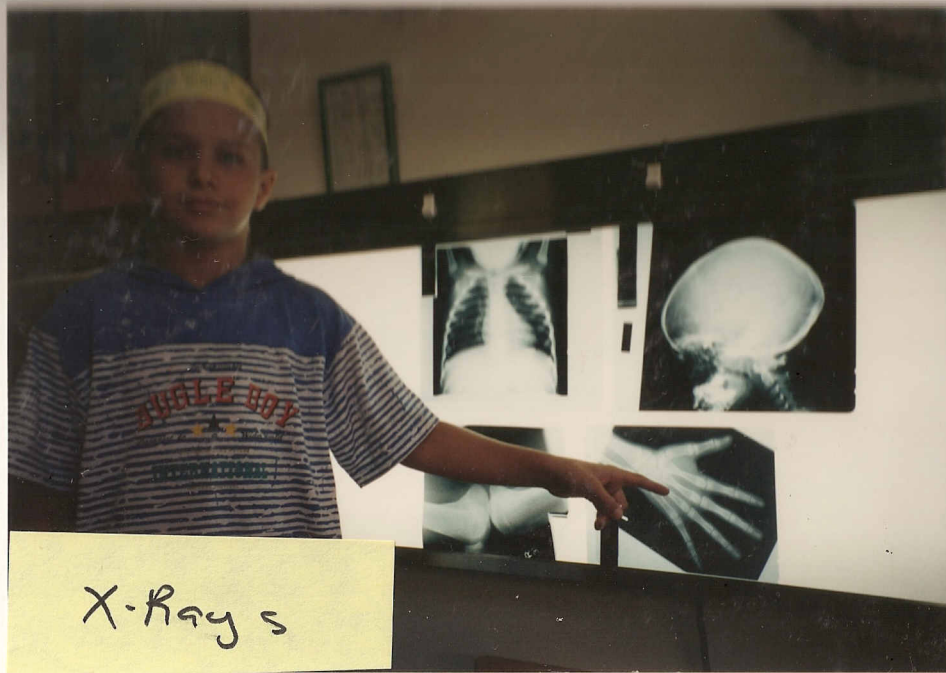
On behalf of the University of Virginia Medical Center and the thousands of children, parents, teachers, volunteers, students and staff members who have benefited from the insight, foresight, hard work, expertise and generosity of the Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc., thank you for a job well done and for a gift to the community that continues to enrich lives seventeen years later. Special acknowledgment should go to founders: Carol Clarke, Em Cummings, Melville Krebs; and Katya Spicuzza (also first Director). Martha Craddock, Vicki Farmer, Etta Legner, Beth Fulmer, Annette Selenger and Michelle Skarvellis have served as Junior League Liasons to our Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

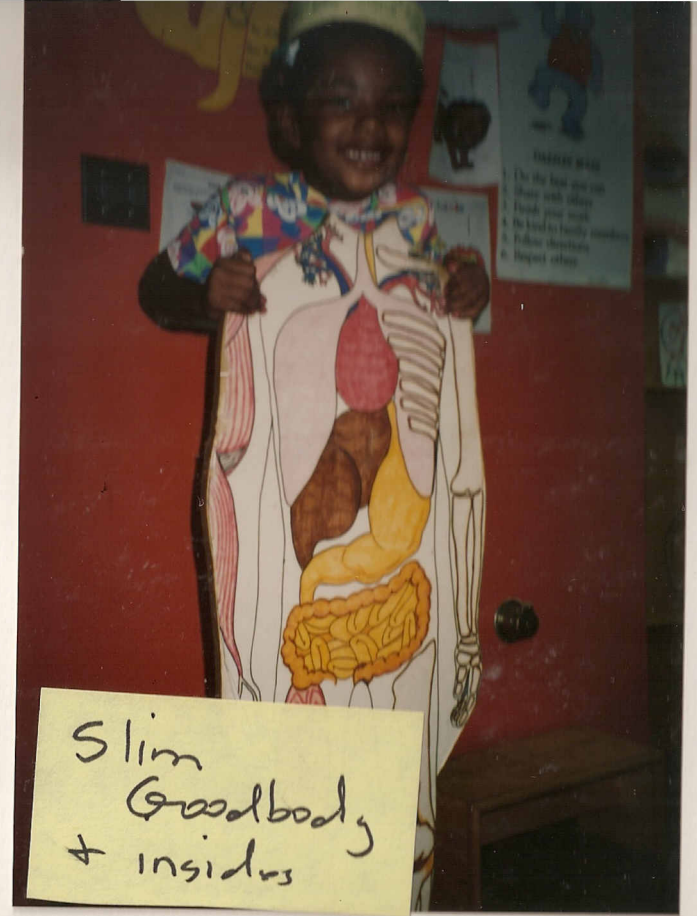
★ Ellen Vaughan, Director

Children's Health Museum

Sustainer, Junior League of Charlottesville, Inc.



X-Ray s



Slim
Goodbody
+ insides



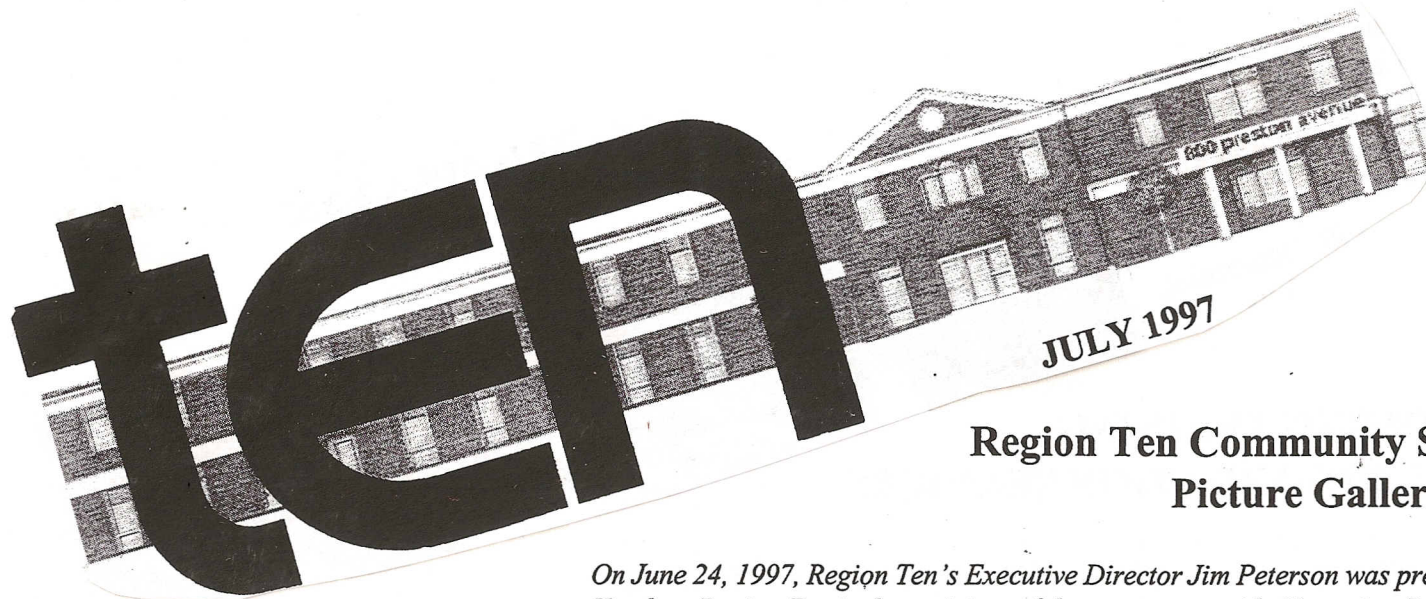
Annual Dinner
May 1997

Barbara Kessler, Outgoing President
Chris Eure, Incoming President



Chris Eure, Barbara Kessler

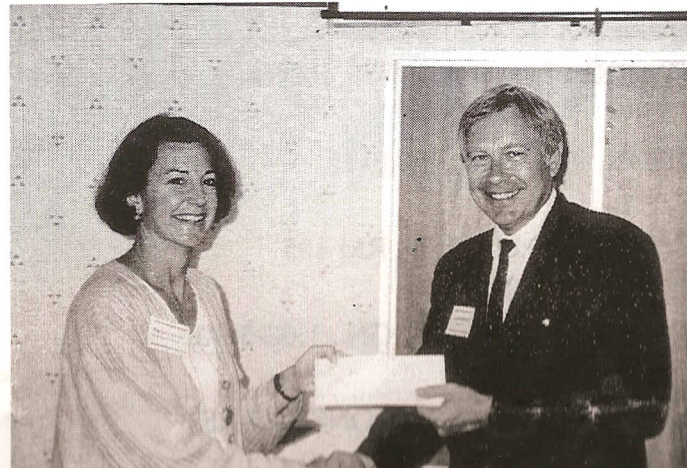


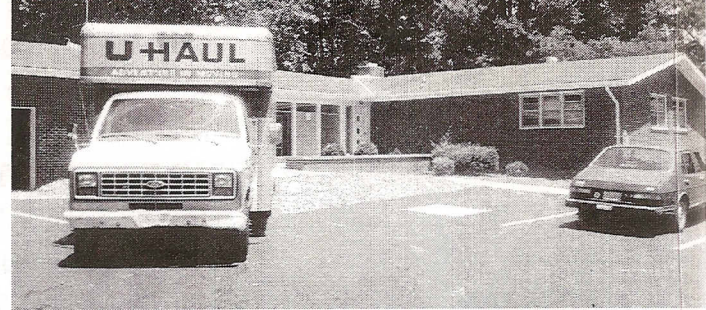


Region Ten Community Services Board Picture Gallery

**JUNIOR LEAGUE of
CHARLOTTESVILLE**
Presents region ten with
\$18,000 check for
NURTURING PROGRAM.
Pictures on page 5.

On June 24, 1997, Region Ten's Executive Director Jim Peterson was presented \$18,000.00 by Jr. League President Barbara Kessler. Region Ten is the recipient of the grant to provide Nurturing Program services (photo by Paxson MacDonald). In other agency activities, it was moving day on June 23, in Louisa when the team moved a block to their new quarters. (Louisa photo by John Pezzoli) and on June 21, ten editor Mary Miller ran across some of the Locust Avenue folks waiting for the bus down to Natural Bridge. Sheri Gauthier and Dee Davis report that the trip was super, everyone had a good time! And, with the help of lots of 800 East High Street Residents, especially Earnier and Joyce and friend of 800 Dusty Morse, Norman Wilfong has beautified the front yard of that Region Ten residential site. And lastly, it was so much fun receiving the \$18,000 for the Nurturing Program from the Junior League that Jim Peterson and Barbara Kessler did it again at the 800 Preston Avenue Building Dedication!!









MEMBER NOTES

The Junior League of Charlottesville presented Johnson Elementary Schools' Families Learning Together Program with the Fourth Annual Focus Area Award (\$2,000). The program is a family literacy program that focuses on the importance of parent involvement in children's education. For more information, call 456-6248.

June 1997

Chamber Comments

CHAMBER COMMENTS

CHARLOTTESVILLE-ALBEMARLE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 5 • AUGUST 1997

Junior League of Charlottesville awards \$18,600 grant. Project LINK, a division of *Region Ten*, is the recipient of a grant which will enable Project LINK to bring The Nurturing Programs to the Charlottesville community. For more information, call 972-1819.

Silent auction slated for May 9 Cardiac Arrest

Junior League partners with merchants to provide prizes

A special feature of this year's Cardiac Arrest will be a Silent Auction of items from area merchants to raise funds to support this year's event.

Items valued at more than \$1,000 will be up for grabs for the highest bidder in the silent auction that will take place during the May 9 event on the Downtown Mall. Bidding will begin at Noon when the event opens and will end at the close of the event at 1:30 p.m. The silent auction is being sponsored by the Junior League of Charlottesville, and everything from a scenic air tour to passes to Paramount's Kings Dominion will be up for grabs.

Merchants supporting this special auction include Beecroft & Bull, Plow and Hearth,

The Happy Cook, Monticello Gift Shop, Blue Ridge Flight Center, Paramount's Kings Dominion, Tea Room Cafe, College Inn, Betsy Coup de Ville's, The Biltmore Grill, Ash Lawn-Highland, Water Country U.S.A., Northern Exposure, Chandler's Bakery, The Hair Affair, Plan 9 Music, The Bubble Shop, The Great Frame Up and the Outback Steakhouse.

We'd like to express our sincere appreciation to Margaret Belling of the Junior League of Charlottesville and all of the members of that organization who worked with area merchants to provide items for this silent auction. If you would like to place a bid on any item early, just call the Heart Association at 973-5072.

Newsletter of Charlottesville's Cardiac Arrest

April 1997

Silent Auction new feature of Cardiac Arrest

1997 Cardiac Arrest Steering Committee

Carter Brown, Chair, 360 Communications

Beth Vanda, Central Fidelity	Lisa Sams, 360 Communications
Wendy Taylor, Mix 107.5	Barbara Lee, Lee Insurance
Rick Daniels, 3WV	Mike Sheffield, U.Va. Police
Eddie Lynch, Sprint	Sherrie Digges, F&M Bank
Angie Logan, Z-95	Susan Creasy, Mailing Services
Melissa Arsenault, LPL	Greg Horridge, Lee Insurance
John Conard, Chili's Grill	Olivia Branch, WINA
Barbara Davis, Adelphia Cable	Christy Campbell Wenzel,
Kim Whittle	Virginia Blood Services

Frances Bazaaz

Spectators at this year's Cardiac Arrest will be able to take advantage of a special Silent Auction this year to benefit the American Heart Association.

Thanks to the support of the Junior League of Charlottesville, more than 20 businesses have donated a variety of items that will be up for grabs in this special auction.

The Auction will begin when court is in session at High Noon on Friday, May 9 on the Downtown Mall in front of Market Street Parking Garage. The public is encouraged to join this year's Cardiac Arrest to take

See SILENT AUCTION Page 2

...Silent Auction

Continued from Page 1

advantage of the exciting items that will be available to the highest bidder. The auction will continue until the last inmate is processed on May 9.

Items valued at more than \$1,000 will be go to the highest bidder. The silent auction is being sponsored by the Junior League of Charlottesville, and everything from a scenic air tour to passes to Paramount's Kings Dominion will be up for grabs.

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See SILENT AUCTION, Page 2

The Official Newsletter of Charlottesville's Cardiac Arrest

May 1997

Junior League to aid shelter group

The Junior League of Charlottesville will dedicate itself to raising funds over the next three years for the Shelter for Help in Emergency.

The league will sponsor a rubber-duck race on the Rivanna River in the spring to raise funds for new transitional housing project for SHE.

SHE and the Albemarle Housing Improvement Program are cooperating on the effort.

The shelter, which has provided emergency housing for women and children since 1979, will be the primary beneficiary of the league's 1998 fund-raiser. The rest of the proceeds will go toward Junior League programs.

For more information about the duck race, to make donations or to volunteer, call the Junior League's Charlottesville office at 971-2937.

THE DAILY PROGRESS, Charlottesville, Va., Monday, November 17, 1997

Junior League of Charlottesville hosts new fund-raiser "Quackin' for a Cause--The Great Charlottesville Duck Race and Festival." The event, scheduled for May 9th at Darden Towe Park, is sponsored by *Wachovia Bank*. 10,000 yellow rubber ducks will be set loose for their journey. For more information, please call (804) 973-4695.

...Silent Auction

Continued from Page 1

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Heart-Hitting Fact...

About 500,000 Americans have a stroke in a given year and about 145,000 of them die, according to the American Heart Association.

Charlottesville/Albemarle Division
3025 Berkmar Drive
Charlottesville, Virginia 22901-1456
Tel 804-973-5072



August 3, 1997

Suzette Buck
Junior League of Charlottesville
P.O. Box 135
Charlottesville, Va. 22902

Dear Suzette,

Enclosed are samples of publicity items involving the Junior League's support of this year's Cardiac Arrest. Thanks to the support of the Junior League and all of our hard-working volunteers, this year's Cardiac Arrest surpassed our \$15,000 goal by raising \$15,500 to support the local Heart Association's Charlottesville/Albemarle Division.

In addition, this event wrapped up our 1996-97 campaign year and thanks to the success we finished our year \$7,000 over our \$218,000 goal. We appreciate the support you provided in making our Silent Auction a success. It was a great addition to the event.

Thank you again for all of your support, and please pass on our thanks to all the members of the Junior League. Your hard work made this year's Cardiac Arrest the best ever. If you have any questions, please contact me at 973-5072, and thanks again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Richard Schultz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "S".

Richard Schultz
Jefferson Area Director

A Whole New League



The Daily Progress/Matt Gentry

Charlottesville Junior League members Stephanie Snell (from left), Cynthia Teague and Chris Eure, the group's president, visit with chil-

dren at the Westminster Child Care Center in Charlottesville. The chapter's \$500 gift helped to establish the center's Rainbow Room.

Local service chapter hip, not haughty

By DANA MYERS

Local service chapter hip, not haughty

By **DANA MYERS**

Daily Progress staff writer

Forty-year-old Chris Eure strolls into the board room wearing jean-shorts and a sweater sprinkled with bright colors.

With four children and a part-time job as executive director of First Night Virginia, Eure wouldn't seem to have much free time. But, as Junior League president for the 1997-98 fiscal year, she is about to call her first board meeting to

order and begin a year of full-time volunteer work.

The 14 women who spill into the Opportunity Shop meeting room around her sport little makeup and even less hairspray. There are no white gloves, no full-length skirts, only a few gold bracelets. As binders and day-planners are scattered across the table, one woman boots up her laptop computer.

"We're high-tech now, aren't we girls?" Eure says.

A laugh goes around the room, but the

statement rings with irony. For today's Junior League has gone far beyond the high-society pumps-and-pearls club of the 1950s.

Founded in 1932 as the University League, the Junior League of Charlottesville Inc. is a nonprofit, educational organization of 560 women trained for volunteer service in the community, with a focus on children and their families. In 1981, the league became the 247th member of the Association of Junior Leagues

See **LEAGUE** on A9

SUNDAY June 15, 1997

THE DAILY PROGRESS

League

Continued from A1

International, which includes 291 leagues comprised of more than 160,000 women in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Great Britain.

Junior League membership across the country has begun to diversify as the local organizations have tried to balance their memberships and strengthen their mission of recruiting women who have a commitment to volunteerism, said Anne Dalton, deputy director of the Association of Junior Leagues International. But, because each league is entirely self-run, with its own internal structure and membership rules, the international association does not control policy.

The Charlottesville league has seen its largest change come as more members have become professionals. Eighty percent of the more than 100 active Charlottesville league members are employed in full- or part-time jobs outside their homes. Along with their careers comes a long laundry list of responsibilities to the league and its mission.

Members are required to work about 17 hours a year at the Opportunity Shop, the thrift store on Charlottesville's Downtown Mall that the league has run for about 60 years, and to donate \$45 worth of clothing. Active members either volunteer in community organizations or are placed in league positions, giving numerous hours of service along with their \$80 annual dues. Many of the women also participate in fundraising, community projects and committee planning.

League members have not always had to complete such an extensive list of services, though. A league member since 1940, 83-year-old Meda Tilman says one of the main differences between the league of today and that of years past is the size and scope of its volunteerism.

"We were a very local group who wanted to do something that made an impression on Charlottesville," Tilman said. "We tried to do something very nice for someone every year, but we weren't professionals."

Shari Thwing, 29, is among the new class of professional women

entering the Junior League. With both a full-time career as the marketing director for the International Fish and Wildlife Association and a family, she joined the league to make the most of her volunteer time.

After hearing that many leagues were still genteel, old-fashioned groups whose main focus was tea parties, she was pleased to find the Charlottesville chapter was exactly the opposite.

"Everybody's very hard-working and really dedicated," Thwing said. "They like to get their hands dirty doing volunteer work, actually working with the children and with the families."

"The league is not a bunch of women just meeting and handing out checks."

The active and varied lives of women today have caused the league to rethink many of its regimetal policies, such as age restrictions. Originally, members were required to become "sustaining members," or inactive members, at 40. That age limit has already been pushed back to 45, but could be extended even more in the next few years, Eure said. Becoming more versatile could allow the league to better accommodate its provisional, active and sustaining members, she added.

The lingering snooty stereotype of the Junior League has caused ruts on the road to change, though. For a group that once required interviews and background checks, the modern league has had to work extremely hard to shed its elitist image and diversify its members.

When first founded, leagues across the country were composed mainly of white, Protestant homemakers. But as desegregation of all facets of society has occurred, so it has in the ranks of the league.

The biggest break from discriminating regulations has come within the last five years with the institution of an open membership policy, Eure said.

This policy allows any woman interested in volunteering to join the league — no invitation or member vote required.

"We just want people who are interested in volunteering. There are no race boundaries, no religious boundaries — we want everybody," 32-year-old active member Fran Carden said.

The invitation-only system of

"Originally, when people were joining the Junior League — this is in the 1960s — they had to be actually invited to join. They did not know that they were put up for membership; the membership committee would vote on them and then invite them."

Gena Davidson, Junior League of Lynchburg member

the past has been replaced with a recruiting committee that advertises for new members by hanging up fliers around town. Despite the strong efforts of the league, diversity has increased slowly. The vast majority of the league remains white.

"I think that's one of the things we're trying to overcome," Carden said. "But, we need to diversify even more."

The league attempts to attract a variety of women by simply trying to make everyone feel comfortable, Carden said. But the difficulty in increasing diversity is making sure that people of different races or religions are not singled out or made to feel like tokens, she added.

The majority of leagues across the country have also adopted open membership policies, but the definition of "open" varies.

The 5,000-member Junior League of Dallas has had an open membership system for the past eight years, said Mary Taylor, the Dallas league's 1997-98 public relations chairwoman. But "open" does not mean a woman can simply walk into the league office and join up, as she can in Charlottesville. She must have four members sponsor her admission.

Dallas had a "selective policy" in the past, Taylor said, but changed it because the league didn't feel that the membership process, which included a "kind of college application," was fair. The current policy has made the league more diverse and more representative of the community it serves, Taylor said.

Whether leagues are truly open or still require sponsors, their membership practices are far from the secretive solicitations of the past. Gena Davidson, 54, who joined the Junior League of Lynchburg in 1969, remembers the negatives and positives of the old system.

"Originally, when people were

joining the Junior League — this is in the 1960s — they had to be actually invited to join. They did not know that they were put up for membership; the membership committee would vote on them and then invite them," Davidson said. "That was standard procedure then for all leagues. That's why people originally saw it as an elitist group, because it was an elitist group."

"Whether or not people are rich or poor, any organization in which you have to make the grade is an elitist group — even if it's a gang on the streets of New York City."

Davidson added that despite the drawbacks of the league then, she benefited from her 14 years as an active member.

"The Junior League has made changes and a lot of them are for the better, but it has always been an excellent training ground for how to advocate for volunteerism and how to be a good volunteer in the community," Davidson said. "I really think it's the best."

A completely self-sufficient organization through its dues, the league gives all the money it raises through community fund-raisers back to the community in grants and awards.

In 1996-97, the league awarded \$7,500 in grants to local organizations, including \$500 to Westminster Child Care Center. The money aided in the establishment of a mixed-age classroom called the Rainbow Room, which "gave families a choice between same and mixed-age classrooms for their children," said Tracy Landon director of the center.

"Older children get chances to be leaders and younger children draw more advanced role models," she added.

The league also gave \$500 to Stone-Robinson Elementary School to sponsor three family nights where at-risk kindergarten students and

their families could work on reading and fine motor skills. This is the second year that Stone-Robinson has received a grant. Last year's funds purchased books for the school.

"The materials the Junior League provided allowed parents to participate in workshops on family nights and then take the materials home with them," said Terri Higgins, coordinator of the Bright Stars program at Stone-Robinson. "We're very, very happy with the Junior League."

For the past 65 years, the league has provided funds and volunteers for a long list of service organizations including the Girl Scouts, the Salvation Army, the Visual Arts Coalition in Charlottesville-Albemarle schools and the Thomas Jefferson Adult Day Care Center. This year the league is looking to try something new by pledging both its funds and members' time to one organization for a two- to three-year period, providing \$40,000 to \$60,000 and hundreds of hours of service.

"To really make an impact on the community we decided that we would put our money where our mouth is, so to speak, and give to an organization that needs our man-hours and our money," Eure said. The league is hoping to find an organization that will welcome its money and its service for an extended period of time, Eure added.

When Mary Harriman founded the Junior League in New York City in 1901, at the age of 19, she did so on the premise that the fortunate should be involved in the lives of the needy.

The words that she wrote in the league's 1906 annual report still represent the league's mission today:

"It seems almost inhuman, that we should live so close to suffering and poverty, that we should know of the deplorable conditions, and of the relief work that exists within a few blocks of our own home, and bear no part in this great life."

When eight young women started the University League in Charlottesville, they adopted Harriman's mission.

"It was a very vibrant, although very small organization," said Katherine, "Pokey" Cole, 85, who joined the league in 1939 and is now a sustaining emeritus member. "I don't think its purpose has changed — it trains people to do charity work and it contributes to the community so much."





1997-1998 Provisional/Board Picnic

Discovery museum Halloween Party





Provisional Class of 1997-1998
Picnic at Darden Towe Park



Provisional Development Team
 Pam Brice, Shari Thwing, Michelle Jennings,
 Monica Johnson, Suzanne Nash



Michelle Jennings, Chair
 Suzanne Nash, Co-Chair



Provisional Picnic



Michelle Jennings
Diana Crosswhite





Diana Crosswhite
Caroline Grimes
Laura Walton



Sandra Watson, President - Elect
 Courtney Reddington
 Eden Weathersby
 Theresa Meenan



Laura Walton
 Nickie Knight



Chris Eure, President
Dana Cockrell



Shari Thwing, Gina Duvall, Dana Cockrell





Shari Thwing, Gina Duvall, Dana Cockrell



Mary Kittell
Sandra Watson





Jennifer Holshouser
Evelyn Ribadeneyra



Shari Thwing, Nickie Knight, Marietta Peterson
Theresa Meenan, Courtney Reddington



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